# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1305
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
RURAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES
RAJO SINGH

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government had taken any decision to set up rural telephone exchanges to provide telecommunication facilities in rural areas;

(b) if so, the number of such telephone exchanges set up during the last three years;

(c) whether most of such exchanges are out of order particularly in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide satisfactory telephone services in rural areas?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. During the last three years, 3731 rural telephone exchanges have been set up in the country.

(c) No, Sir. Most of the rural exchanges including those in Bihar, are working satisfactorily. However, to further improve the services, reliable transmission media is being provided gradually in all the exchanges. This work is targetted to be completed by March, 2002.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to para (c) above.